Government helped these business-men, motor traffic in the State would be seriously affected and the general public put to great inconvenience. The chief reasons that contributed to the loss of the owners of motor vehicles were the following :—

(1) Absence of any restriction in regard to the regulation of fares.

(2) Levy of heavy toll on vehicles, especially buses and lorries.

(3) Levy of testing fees, municipal license fees, etc.

(4) Double punishment for the same offence under the Motor Vehicles Regulation, one by the criminal court and the other departmentally.

The hardships experienced by the motor business-men should be removed by the adoption of the following measures :—

(1) Reduction of toll fees by 35 per cent.

(2) Levy of toll once in twenty-four hours only at the same toll-gate.

(3) Testing of lorries should be made compulsory and the condition of brakes should be specially certified to.

(4) Lorries should not be allowed to carry passengers.

(5) The practice of awarding double punishments for the same offence should be stopped.

(6) Motor vehicles should be tested at least four times a year but the testing fees should not exceed Rs. 20 a year in each case.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Kittan, I am afraid, there is not much chance of tolls being reduced at the present moment.

Your other grievances in respect of motor vehicles will be referred to the Commissioner of Police for report.

Just one of them I would like to refer to, *viz.*, the elementary principle of justice that no man should be punished twice for the same offence. But a motor driver who drives recklessly and knocks you down is punished in the Court of Law and also by the Traffic Department, so that he may be more careful in future and not knock other people down.

When the Commissioner's report is received, your representations will be carefully considered.

The Assembly adjourned for lunch at 2-4 P. M. and met again at 3 P. M.

41. Protection of cattle and development of agriculture.

MR. P. NARAYANARU BHATTATIRI (*Jenmies, Quilon Division*) said that proper facilities were not afforded for the rearing of cattle. There were no grazing grounds and no veterinary doctors in all places to treat the cattle for the several diseases. There were only 13 veterinary hospitals in the State which were quite inadequate. For the Pattanamtitta, Tiruvalla and Changanachery taluks together there was only one veterinary doctor. It was physically impossible for one doctor to attend to the cattle in three taluks. The following were the suggestions made by the member for the protection of cattle :—

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(1) Opening of veterinary hospitals in places where there are plenty of cattle.

(2) The treatment of cattle in veterinary hospitals should be attended to by the doctors themselves and not by the compounders.

(3) The hours of treatment in hospitals should be fixed at 7 A. M. to 12 noon every day. The touring work of the doctor should be done after 2 P. M. and his jurisdiction should not extend beyond a radius of 8 miles from the hospital.

(4) The veterinary hospitals should be removed from rented to Government buildings and sufficient accommodation should be provided in each hospital for the treatment of in-patients.

(5) The number of employees in each hospital should be increased.

(6) The provisions of the Animal Diseases Regulation should be strictly enforced. Measures should also be taken to prevent the spread of contagious diseases and also to give timely medical aid to the affected cattle.

(7) Stud bulls of good breed should be got down and maintained in veterinary hospitals. The grants-in-aid now awarded to private persons for maintaining such bulls might with advantage be utilised for getting down bulls.

(8) The grants awarded to unqualified veterinary *vaidyans* should be stopped and the amount utilised for more useful purposes. The necessary provisions should also be included in the Medical Registration Bill now under consideration so as to control these quack doctors.

(9) The cattle brought for slaughter should be certified to by the veterinary doctors instead of by the Sanitary officers.

(10) Draught animals should be licensed in order to prevent the use of diseased and disabled cattle for the purpose.

(11) Diseased animals were being brought to and sold from the cattle markets which were under no sort of control. These markets should be placed under the control of the veterinary doctors so as to avoid the spread of contagious diseases among cattle.

He next spoke about the development of agriculture. In the wet lands in Tiruvalla and the places surrounding it three crops were raised *viz.*, *virippu*, *mundakan* and *punja*. Of these, *punja* crop was the most important. The lands were sown for this crop in the months of Makaram and Kumbhom when water would be scarce. Without water *punja* crop would be a failure although the lands might have been manured. Irrigational facilities should therefore be afforded to the *punja* cultivators. The officers of the Agricultural Department should be entrusted with the duty of affording such facilities.

The *virippu* and *mundakan* crops depended upon the monsoons. If the rains were heavy, the crops were destroyed by accumulated and flood water from the rivers. Measures should be devised to drain away the flood water when such crops were revised.

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People were not taking adequate interest in raising dry crops such as tapioca, banana and sugarcane. There was no market for raw tapioca and the people were ignorant of the ways of refining it and manufacturing food products. Similar was the fate of the other two crops. An industrial concern should be started under the auspices of the Departments of Agriculture and Industries and facilities afforded for developing the cultivation of these crops and manufacturing useful food-stuffs.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Narayanaru Bhattatiri, Government are quite aware of the importance of rearing cattle and of improving the breed; and no opportunity will be lost for doing so.

The question of opening more veterinary hospitals depends on finance.

The other matters which have been brought forward will be considered.

In general, you may be sure that this is considered one of the most important matters for the attention of Government.

42. Opening of a village road connecting Chiramatam with Anantanar.

MR. R. KALIAM PILLAI (*Tovala taluk*) urged the need for extending the village road leading to Chiramatam from the 7th mile, 5th furlong, of the Balamore road to Anantanar. The proposed extension would be only 4½ furlongs in length and would be of much benefit and convenience to the villagers of Chiramatam, Anantapuram, Darsanamcope and other villages. The following were the chief advantages:—

(1) The road would lead to the adjoining forest on which the villagers depended for fuel, green manure and grazing their cattle.

(2) The proposed road would bring in more revenue to the Government because of the additional facilities to the people.

(3) The villagers were agriculturists and this road was necessary for taking manure, etc., to their fields and the produce therefrom to their houses.

(4) There is a temple on the bank of the Anantanar much resorted to by the people of the adjoining villages. But they were put to much inconvenience on account of the absence of a road leading to the temple. The proposed road would remove this inconvenience.

This was a long felt want and the people were frequently petitioning the authorities for the construction of the proposed road.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Kaliam Pillai, although this road is a short one, the acquisition of land for the same will be very costly, as many paddy fields have to be acquired. However, the matter will be placed before the Road Board.

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